



DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER

STATE DEPT of NATURAL RESOURCES

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Vol. 7 No. 7

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July, 1948

NELSON REPORTS FROM JULY HIGHLIGHTS

The State Board of Forestry, meeting in San Francisco on July 23, held an exhaustive hearing on the possible purchase of 3,350 acres of forest land in Lake County, California, as a state forest. The land had been offered for sale to the state by the Calso Company and some of the small timber thereon had been offered by the Setzer Forest Products Inc. of Sacramento. The area lies on the upper reaches of Boggs Mountain, a much used recreational area, south of Clear Lake in southern Lake County. The Board heard opinions on the advisability of purchasing the property from representatives of the forest industries, as well as from local representatives of Lake County. A spokesman for the County Board of Supervisors of Lake County indicated that the acquisition of this area by the state would be most beneficial to Lake County. After a complete study of appraisal reports, made by outside appraisers and technicians of the Division, the Board concluded that the area was favorably situated for state forest purposes, was a timber producing area, and was offered at a reasonable price to the State of California. They unanimously recommended the purchase of the 3,350 acres and some of the small timber thereon to the State Forest Purchase Committee.

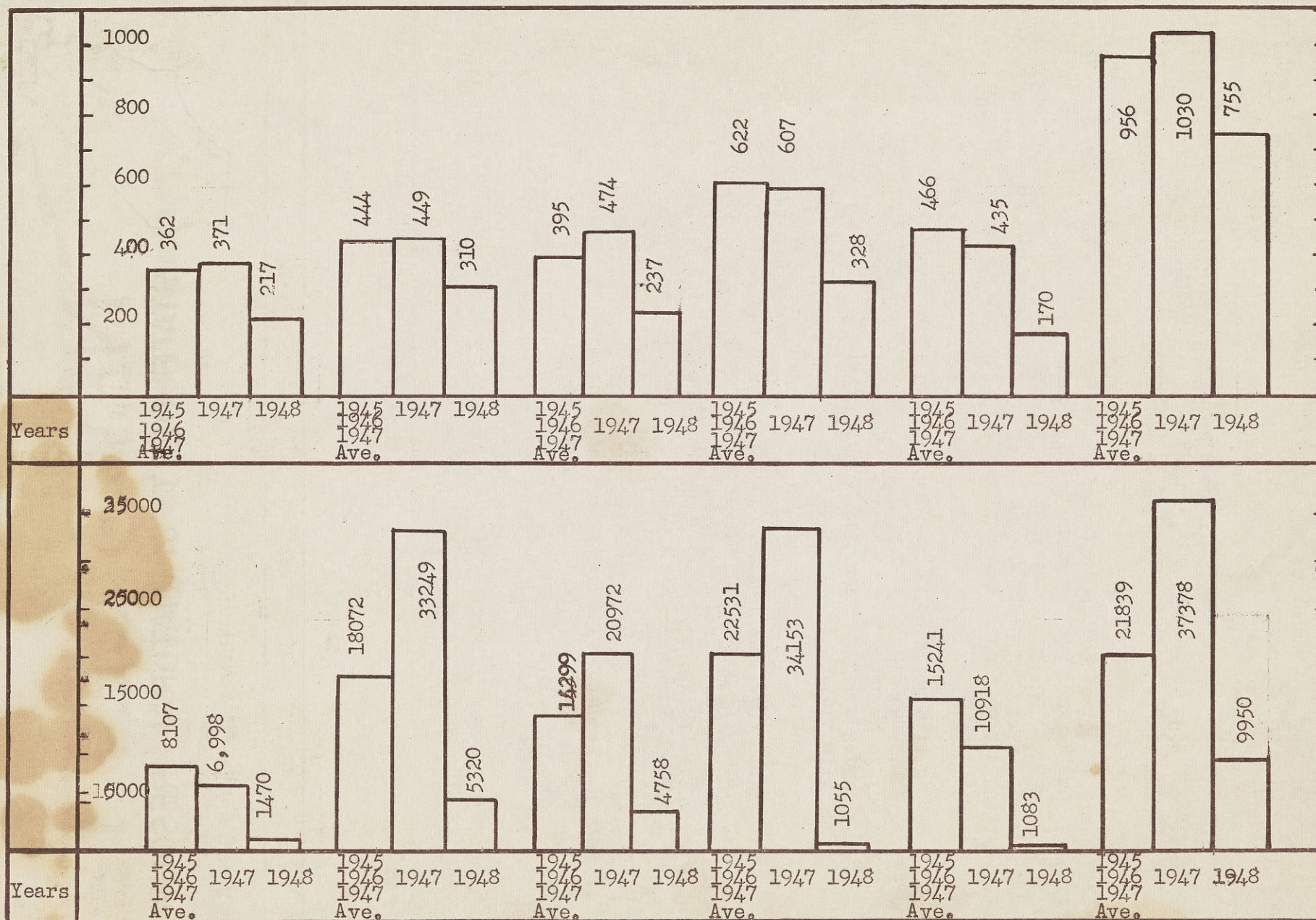
It will be recalled that the purchasing authority rests with the State Forest Purchase Committee composed of the Governor, the Director of the Department of Finance, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources, and Chairman of the State Board of Forestry. No date has yet been set for consideration by this committee of the purchase of the area but it is anticipated that the subject in question will be discussed at an early date.

During the latter part of July, marking was started on the Peavine Gulch block of timber on the LaTour State Forest. It is contemplated that this block of timber will be advertised for sale soon. The timber is over-mature and the problem in marking will be to find enough good trees to leave as seed sources. The marking and sale will be under the immediate direction of George Grogan recently appointed Assistant State Forest Technician in charge of LaTour State Forest.

The Division's Forest Manager, P. H. McCanlies, has submitted his resignation this month to accept a logging job in Oregon. No successor to this important position has yet been made but will be just as soon as practicable.

News on the delivery of new fire suppression crew and tank trucks is encouraging this month as more than twenty pumps have now been received by the automotive concern responsible for completed equipment. Engines for the pumps are on hand and latest information leads us to believe that this transportation equipment will be available to the

COMPARATIVE RECORD OF *FOREST FIRES 1945-1948 ON LANDS PROTECTED BY CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FORESTRY
JULY 31 CUMULATIVE TOTAL FROM JANUARY 1



*THIS SUMMARY IS COMPILED FROM 10-DAY FIRE RECORDS AND WILL BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE FINAL YEARLY SUMMARY COMPILED FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRE REPORTS.

Division for use during the latter part of August or the first part of September.

Installation of radio equipment continues. All equipment manufactured by the Philco Corp. that includes repeater, land, and mobile sets have been received. All equipment of the Motorola type has been exchanged and has been installed. Ninety percent of the thirty-four mobiles manufactured by Philco have been installed as have five land stations. The Division has received partial delivery of equipment from the Link Corp. and has been advised of a final delivery date of August 16. Field radio technicians are swamped with the large quantity of radio equipment arriving at one time. Installation work is proceeding rapidly, however, by drawing on other field personnel for necessary non-technical jobs of installation. Technical details are handled by the radio technicians. It is expected that by the end of August or the first part of September that all of the Division's radio equipment will be in operation.

The Division's engineering section this month spent its time in planning and preparing material lists, estimating, clearing property titles, etc. on the postwar construction and minor improvement programs but little construction work was actually accomplished due to delay by the Department of Public Works in passing on our request for approval of projects under and over \$10,000. Work is being seriously delayed and we are hopeful for a partial solution to this problem soon.

Construction work on the Boucher Lookout in San Diego County is about 75% complete.

Fire weather conditions were about normal during the month of July with high temperatures experienced in parts of the state over short periods of time. There were, however, no extenuating periods of weather and high winds were absent. The first serious fire of the month and of the year to date occurred in San Diego County near Barrett Dam. The fire burned approximately 7,500 acres, 4,000 on lands under the protection of the Division of Forestry and 3,500 acres of national forest land. The fire started on the 8th of July and was put under control on the 12th. Division personnel in Shasta County suppressed a 1,000 acre fire near Enterprise on the 15th of July and an 1,800 acre fire was controlled in Tuolumne County near the town of Jacksonville on the same date. Two large fires broke out on the 20th of July in Shasta County, one near Ono and one near Bella Vista but were controlled during the first burning period with a loss of 750 and 600 acres respectively. Fire occurrence during the month dropped more than 300 fires when compared to the July period of 1947. The cumulative fire occurrence figures to date from the first of the year show a total of 2,017 fires on lands protected by the Division in comparison to 3,366 in 1947, and to a three-year average, 1945-47 of 3,245. Again, as was stated last month, we feel the late Spring rains, and the moderate weather conditions that have prevailed since has a great deal to do with the decrease in fire occurrence. It will not be until later when we have had an opportunity to study the fire occurrence record by cause that we will be able to discern whether or not our fire prevention efforts in the field of personal contact, hazard reduction, and group education have had a major part in this reduction. It is the feeling of this Division that the expanded efforts by protection personnel have been of immense help in acquainting local and metropolitan people with the seriousness of the fire problem. We have extended our sincere appreciation of the fine fire prevention educational work done this summer by the many civic and community groups, industrial concerns, and other governmental agencies that are sharing with the state and federal forest services in the tremendous task of educating California's adult population. Participation in the educational campaign on the part of all groups has been more intensive than ever and there is every reason to believe that it is having some effect on the reduced fire occurrence totals as indicated in our cumulative records. There has also been considerable

reduction in the acreage burned by fires to date. A total of 23,636 acres have been devastated from January to July 31, 1948, with comparative figures of 143,635 acres in 1947, and 100,099 acres for the three-year average. Many factors have here, as in fire occurrence, affected these reduced totals. Moderate weather conditions, slow rates of spread, lack of high winds, have been among them, but the Division enthusiastically feels that the preseason training program with summer employees has had a vital effect on the size of fires to date. With employees more efficient, thru intensive training in the May-June period, we have every reason to believe that more effective and efficient fire control has resulted. We are, however, approaching the critical months of August and September that call for maximum effort and stamina on the part of all Division men. Added communication facilities will naturally help during this period as will replacement equipment that at this date seems likely to be delivered to the Division field personnel soon after September 1.

HORACE KENNEDY PASSES ON

A few days ago the Division learned of the untimely death of Horace Kennedy, a Division employee for many years, in Vancouver, B.C. Mr. Kennedy retired a little more than a year ago from the Division and had been traveling extensively with his wife since enjoying a well-earned rest. The Division's deepest sympathies have been extended to Mrs. Kennedy and son Clyde who resides in Glendale. Funeral arrangements have been made at Forest Lawn in Glendale.

CALIFORNIA REDWOODS IN JAPAN

This week we received from Milton P. Duffy, Chief, Bureau Food and Drug Inspection, State Department of Public Health, the following news clipping from the Nippon Times that he detached for our information while in Japan:

"30-year mystery solved when botanist finds California redwood tree grow-
in park.

A tree in Tsurumai Park in Nagoya which had baffled botanists' efforts to identify it for 30 years was recently revealed to be the only living California redwood tree transplanted in Japan some 30 years ago.

The discovery was made by Tokitsuna Yokoi, former director of the Nagoya Botanical Gardens, who was vexed for many years by the strange tree which eluded classification. Recently, he consulted "A Field Book of American Trees and Shrubs" in the library of Democracy Hall in Nagoya and finally found that it was a redwood tree, 20 meters high and one and one-half meters in circumference at its base.

Mr. Yokoi believes that when young plants of American species were received by the Tokyo Municipal Office in the 1910's, it distributed some of them among the country's large cities and Nagoya received the redwood plant. He said it was unusual that a redwood tree could have grown to this size in such a low-lying district as Nagoya."

BUDGET HELP

The Operations Section has had several personnel changes due to transfers and to compensate for the five-day week program and several people have been added to the staff to help with the postwar construction program. Mrs. Sylvia Silver, fresh from New York has joined the staff as an Intermediate Stenographer; Beverlie Byder has been employed as an Intermediate Account Clerk to replace Beth Robinson who has been promoted to Senior Account Clerk; Mr. Richard Haney has joined the

staff as an Intermediate Account Clerk to assist us to codify sub-purchase orders into expenditure classifications, the mysteries of which will soon be revealed to all field personnel. (Wait until you see this!!!!)

Melvin Pomponio
Operations Officer

ABOUT THE DIVISION

CALAVERAS COUNTY NEWS

Francis Bradford, newly promoted to Associate Ranger and assigned to Calaveras County, was given a warm welcome upon his arrival at San Andreas headquarters on July 14th. Old Jup' Pluvius sent the temperature up to 106° two days running. As an Assistant Ranger in San Luis Obispo Bradford was undoubtedly handicapped by the "cold and fog" of that area and if Calaveras County runs true to form we will undoubtedly warm things up for him. Ranger Fenlon was given a similar reception last year with the largest fire of our entire season.

The warm spell of July 15th resulted in this season's initial roll of our "chuck wagon" with Foreman Leo Cassell at the reins. The locale was Don Pedro Dam in Tuolumne County and in one hour after arrival breakfast was being served. The efficiency and value of this unit has been so outstanding that we have been awarded the job of constructing a similar unit for the northern counties in District 3.

What will probably go down in the records as our most disastrous fire of the season occurred in the early morning hours of Sunday, July 18th, when a structural fire in a remote area near Darby Mountain east of Murphys took the lives of two women and a child. Crews from our Murphys and Altaville stations arrived to find the house nearly consumed by flames. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Lilburn White, member of the C.D.F. crew in Tuolumne County, who lost his mother, grandmother and tiny niece in the disaster.

Fire suppression has now replaced a busy winter and spring construction program. The new metallic phone line between San Andreas and Mt. Zion via Sierra Vista is now in operation and giving excellent service. The repeater atop Fowler Peak is operating but with some occasional "bugs" still to be eliminated. Last of our stations to be opened was the new Esperanza camp. The P.G. & E. finally brought in power and Assistant Ranger John Jackson and Foreman Harold Woods formally opened the station with a few well-worded statements.

The success of the Mother Lode's celebrated Murphys "Wingdam" celebration was considerably enhanced by the efforts of Assistant Ranger Herbert Caton, Equipment Operator Foster Vernon, and the Murphys fire suppression crew headed by Foreman Clifford Jamison. They cleared and improved an area near the fire station to such an extent that it brought several offers to purchase the land. It will be a park and picnic ground strategically located along Murphys creek.

James G. Fenlon
State Forest Ranger

UNUSUAL HAPPENINGS IN PLACER COUNTY

A number of unusual circumstances came to the attention of CDF personnel in Placer County, all occurring on one day. Any one would be unusual in itself but

having such an accumulation happen on a single day tautly stretched nerves were near the snapping point.

First, a report came in of a log smoking near the edge of the line of a ten-day old fire that had been cold apparently during this time. Investigation proved that the log actually was smoking up and, strangely enough, it was first noticed about 10 a.m. following a very cool night. The log was promptly taken care of.

The second peculiar circumstance happened in conjunction with this fire. While working on the log the crew noticed three boys enter the aperture at the end of an old cement bridge. Shortly thereafter the boys came out and soon after that smoke began coming out. The boys' story was that a tramp had been cooking in there and had left after throwing some debris on the fire. Further questioning later in the day proved that the boys had started the fire themselves. The peculiar part was the fact that the fire was inside a cement bridge burning in debris and we are not yet sure whether to call it a structural fire or a so-called forest fire.

Before it was fully determined that the boys were responsible for the fire two patrols had been sent out looking for the tramp. One of these patrols encountered the 3rd unusual happening on Highway 40 when a large truck came down the highway with its left inside wheel on fire. After a spirited chase in which we fear that the 35 mile an hour speed limit was not observed the truck was flagged down and the fire extinguished. A patrol was placed along Highway 40 to be sure that roadside fires had not been started from the truck.

The fourth unusual happening was a story brought back from one of the drivers on his day off that partially burned pieces of paper, apparently torn at random from magazines, had been dropped by a plane in the Rocklin area. No fires resulted and to date nothing has been found as to the origin of the burned papers.

The fifth, last but not least, happening of note was the return of our stenographer, nee Myrtle Eldridge, from a day off with the news that she is now Mrs. Kimbuck Williams. Williams was formerly employed by the Division in Placer County. We have searched our form book through and there seems to be a form devised for most every activity but we find no record of what to do when a person changes his name.

Emery Sloat
Forest Ranger

PREVENTION PATROL EFFECTIVE

The fact that District IV did not suffer a single fire that could be attributed to anyone of the thousands of persons who traveled through our beautiful valley to the mountains and ocean during the July 4th holiday is the result, in part, of the outstanding prevention job done by Forest Officers on prevention patrol during that period.

Working on prearranged plans Assistant Rangers practically "rang door bells" in recreational areas and on main traveled highways distributing pamphlets and selling fire prevention. In addition, radio equipped fire trucks with specially trained crews were parked at main intersections, roadside drinking fountains and camp grounds and distributed hundreds of pamphlets to persons who perhaps might have never been contacted by our Department.

Many complimentary reports as to these men's activities have reached this

office. One story in particular might well demonstrate how the courtesy of an unidentified forest officer gained for the Division at least five ardent supporters. Our informant advises that near a Highway #41 drinking fountain he overheard three men discussing the attractive prevention pamphlets they had received and remarking on how the Division of Forestry was really working to prevent fires when a lady, who had also been listening, stepped into the group and related how a forest officer had just changed a tire for her and when she expressed her appreciation asked her to accept for her a family a supply of fire prevention material.

We feel that this type of grass root public relations magnified throughout the State will be a factor in the ultimate reduction of man-caused fires.

J. D. Rafferty,
Fire Prevention Officer

THE HEAT IS ON IN KINGS COUNTY

The extreme heat in Kings County has been terrific, the temperature soaring from 100 to 112 degrees, this is the worst we have experienced in a long time. "OLD MAN SUN HAS REALLY GIVEN US A BAD TIME."

Harvesting of grain is over for this year, with an average crop being harvested. The total loss by fire consisted of one harvester, one car and only five acres of standing grain. We feel very fortunate, however, a lot of credit goes to the "FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAM LAUNCHED THIS YEAR", spark arresters, etc.

The people in Kings County have been very receptive to this program, also, I have given a tremendous amount of time to further its progress the last few months, numerous meetings in various parts of the county, also, two radio talks over KNGS, the topic of discussion being "CONSERVATION OF OUR NATIONAL RESOURCES." This last week end was spent with the Girl Scouts at Redwood Lake, taking them on hikes and talking to the group regarding fire prevention and suppression. Our friend Dick Rafferty, from the District Office entertained them with the film "Then It Happened". The group consisted of 108 Scouts and 10 instructors.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM DISTRICT IV

The stork has had a busy time in Tulare County this month. So far, he has helped the personnel contribute the following fireman and future firemanettes. On July 10th, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Romine, FFD, Woodlake, contributed a future firemanette. This young lady entered the world weighing 6 lbs., 8½ oz., and like most women, with her mouth open. Congratulations to the proud parents. On July 15th, Mr. and Mrs. James King, FFD, Exeter, contributed a future fireman. This young gentleman weighed in at 8 lbs. 4 ozs. You can't touch Jim and Mrs. King with a 10 foot pole now. On July 20th, Mr. and Mrs. George Marsh contributed another firemanette, weight 7 lbs. 5 ozs. Congratulations to the proud parents, and not to be outdone by Mrs. Romine, George states that his daughter hasn't stopped talking since her birth.

The biggest surprise of all was when Charles Rothgarn, Dispatcher at Visalia Headquarters and a supposed confirmed bachelor, pulled and tugged at one of Cupid's arrows and finally went the way of many a good man and eloped to Reno where he joined the ranks of the benedicts by saying "I Do" with Miss Joyce Shipman of

Fresno. The groom returned to work at Visalia and the bride is in Fresno until their plans for the immediate future can be made. They were married on July 21st at 11:15 a.m. Congratulations, Chuck and Joyce.

Marvan Ewing,
Associate State Forest Ranger

Law enforcement cases and recent investigations in Mariposa County have indicated to Ranger Hufford that many nuisance roadside fires are traceable to juveniles and are set with no apparent reason other than because they have nothing constructive to do and are bored by their inactivity. Hufford, the head of a teen age family, points out that in many small towns, unlike metropolitan areas, are giving little or no thought to juvenile recreation as a delinquency preventive. Confident that many fires could be prevented and the seed of conservation and fire prevention implanted in the minds of tomorrow's citizens by a well-rounded recreational program, Hufford urges forest officers to investigate and take an active part in programs toward this end, particularly now that the 40-hour week permits participation in civic affairs.

J. D. Rafferty
Fire Prevention Officer

FIRE PREVENTION - SAN BENITO COUNTY

We have as of August 15th, completed our "Paper Campaign", in regards to our fire prevention work. August 5th saw the bottom of the pile in our blotters, leaflets, and posters. We heaved a sigh of relief and sat back and tabulated the results of our efforts. They are of sufficient interest to pass along. Blotters and letter inserts were given this year, as in previous years, to all banks and business houses for inclusion in their monthly statements. Folders were made up containing the following:

California State Fire Law	(Booklet)
Be Careful	(Leaflet)
Keep California Green	(Booklet)
Blotter	
Protect Our Future	(Letter Insert)

The above was bound, stapled, and stamped with a "Smoky The Bear" stamp. They were then put into 1375 RFD boxes in San Benito County by mailmen Marion Hall and Bill Reed, Assistant Rangers in Panoche and Pinnacles districts. The "mailmen act" also served to bring the boys around to the ranches during harvesting time, and inspections were made of every piece of harvesting equipment in San Benito County. Also letters were sent to every rancher in the county reminding him of the need for spark arresters and fire extinguishers on the equipment. There were no violations when the equipment was inspected. Also time was found to put up over 3000 prevention posters along the roads and in shop windows in the three principal towns in the county. All hazardous fire areas were posted and incidentally three-fourths of the county, is in this area. Fire prevention talks were given to the Hollister High School, Junior College, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and to several business clubs in the county. Motion pictures were shown to the Junior College and High School and will be shown to the V.F.W. and Boy Scouts. Letters were also sent to all large land owners reminding them of the forthcoming deer season and the dangers to be encountered. Several demonstrations were given and the Forestry's aims were continually brought to public attention. Notable of the demonstration was at Bolado Park Horsemen's Show, where several hundred leaflets were passed out and

posters designed and printed by L. H. Gum, State Forest Ranger of Santa Cruz County, were hung throughout the grounds.

Roadside burning was carried out the length of San Benito County by Foremen Robert Clark, Larry Young, and Jorgen Toft. Both sides of the State Highways #25 and the Panoche road were burned and later "bladed" by the Division of Highways and county crews.

Now the results: Maybe it is too soon to look for results but in a county of over 652,800 acres of State protected land we have had fifty fires that burned a total of less than 39 acres. Five of these fires were roadside and they occurred before the roadside was fireproofed. Twenty of the fifty fires were structural and were non-preventable. So it is easy to see that in a tinder dry county comprised mostly of grass and chamise our fire prevention work has shown some results.

Assistant Ranger, Bill Reed is doubling in brass lately. During his working hours he has charge of the west side of San Benito County and after 5 P.M. he is the scoutmaster of the local Sea Scout Troop, Ship #35 sponsored by the V.F.W. Post. Bill is not only trying to make better citizens of the boys but after watching them prow around the fire station at Hollister it looks as if he is also trying to interest them in being future Rangers and etc.

John P. Wade
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM THE SUNNY SOUTHLAND

When the sun shines in sunny Southern California, it pours and is measured by inches. If the spring-like winters and winter-like summers continue, District VI will be working at fire prevention with the cart before the horse, "Dewey" weather!

*This District is non-partisan and the views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Division.

The battle is on with bigger and better fish stories; everyone having a better story and a bigger fish. Assistant Ranger E. C. Carlson's son, Punky, came home from camp waving a blue 1st prize ribbon for having caught the prettiest fish while in camp. Unfortunately, Punky had to reprove the fish as mermaids were out of season. Assistant Deputy Bertsch tried his hand at fishing, fathoms deep in the Pacific Ocean. When approached, upon his return, as to what luck he had, Gene modestly replied "Hardly any". Later upon receipt of snapshots taken on that day, the office was surprised to see Gene flanking a string of some 50 denizens of the deep which he had so ably caught. The most surprised of all was Deputy Mace, who had sympathized with Gene for his bit of bad luck and who had generously offered suggestions, previous to seeing the pictures, on the art of catching much bigger and much better fish.

District VI is losing Marilou Beamer, Intermediate Typist-Clerk to the Department of Motor Vehicles where she has accepted a position as Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk. This office will miss Marilou and we all wish for her much success in her new position.

Former fire crew cook and at present forestry equipment operator, Floyd R. Lessor, San Bernardino County, is passing cigars in announcement of the arrival of his son, born July 29, 1948.

The Division of Forestry is losing a long time faithful servant when R. Neave Sims, Assistant Ranger, San Diego County retires the first of August. "Ray" as his friends know him has served the Division of Forestry for many years and was well known and liked throughout the Division. This District desires to take this opportunity to wish Ray much happiness during his period of retirement and hopes he enjoys his well-deserved relaxation to its fullest.

The pandemonium evoked from the preparation of District VI's budget was mild compared to the paroxysms Norman Harris has been undergoing while awaiting word as to the outcome of his written examination, taken for Fire Prevention Officer. Norm implored the prayers of headquarters staff, which evidently did the trick as this morning a notice from the Personnel Board arrived stating Norm was qualified to meet the firing squad on Monday, August 9. The seizures have not ceased as Norm feels the worse is yet to come; however, it is the consensus that Norm's winning ways will see him through.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Within the last two months, we have assumed the fire protection responsibilities of the following Air Bases in Riverside County: Morton, Blythe, Thermal, and Ryan Field, in cooperation with the County Air Post Commission. This increase in protection area has meant an increase in available equipment, of which four tankers are available for off base use.

This month will see the start of construction on a new county station at Sunnymead, similar in construction to the station built at Indio last year. This will provide a two-bedroom residence, garage space for two tankers, and relief quarters for four men.

The quarters at Ryan Field and Thermal Air Base will also have to be remodeled during the summer, as well as the completion of the new warehouse at Perris Headquarters. All in all, the heavy construction program, coupled with the usual repair and maintenance work is keeping all personnel more than busy. Fortunately, all of our fires have been kept small to date, leaving plenty of time for construction.

Deane L. Bennett
Assistant Ranger

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

I had the pleasure of working with the U.S. Forest Service on the Barrett Dam fire, July 8 to July 12, 1948. This fire burned over very rugged terrain taking the crews up to three hours of good hard walking time to get on the fire line.

The Forest Service had two helicopters which ferried one man at a time to the furthest point of the fire in approximately four minutes, from fire camp to fire line, round trip. So, a crew of 30 men could be delivered (fresh) to the fire line in just two hours, saving 30 man hours plus having the crews fresh when hitting the line. The helicopters were also used very effectively in servicing these hand crews on the line with "hot lunches", mind you, also water and tool replacements.

During this fire we had the misfortune of having several accidents where men broke or sprained their legs. If it had not been for the helicopters, each one of these cases would have taken several ^{man} hours to be carried out to the fire

camp, not to mention the hours of pain for the injured men. There was a very serious accident on this fire, where a U.S. Forest Service man was burned to death. Again the helicopter came into use in locating and carrying out the body.

There really is not enough I could say to praise the work of the helicopter on this fire. One of the uses I did forget, and by all means a very important one, is scouting the fire. As everyone knows, this takes time and fatigue on the part of the fire boss, where it was done in a very few minutes with ease from the air.

I think all in all, the helicopters of Armstrong and Flint's more than paid for themselves on this fire. The pilots of these ships are all very reliable men and it was a great pleasure working with them.

C. L. Rockwell
Assistant State Forest Ranger

REPORT ON SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR

With the conclusion of the San Diego County fair on July 5, it is felt that many more persons have become acquainted with the work being done here by the Division of Forestry. During the eleven days that the fair was in session and our booth on display, an estimated 10,750 persons attended the exhibit. According to Assistant Ranger Mike Schori, who was in attendance at the booth during most of the fair, a lively interest was shown by the public in all that was on display. With the interest shown and many in attendance, the booth has more than served its purpose in acquainting the public with the Division work here.

The exhibit was presented in a 36' x 12' booth constructed of Coulter Pine, White Fir, and Cedar slabs and trimmed with Coulter Pine and Bigcone Spruce cones, all from the Julian area. A sign, Division of Forestry, was made from Manzanita wood and mounted on a slab by fire fighter Byron Brennick and Assistant Ranger Schori, after hours of beating the brush for wood specimens and fitting together the pieces that matched.

Flanking a complete collection of firefighting tools was a model of Mt. Woodson Lookout, accompanied by an Osborne Firefinder; a map of San Diego County Assistant Ranger Districts with CDF Lookouts and Stations; a model of a farm, illustrating the right and wrong of rural hazard reduction as regards to County Fire Ordinances; some 1947 statistics and several samples of insect damage from the Julian-Cuyamaca Insect Zone, accompanied by color pictures taken by Neil Rice, Forestry Engineer.

Foreman Bill Seehorn, who also doubles as a good sign painter, was responsible for enhancing the appearance of the booth with a quantity of signs. At the last moment, the two large signs on statistics and fire ordinances were ruined, but rising to the occasion he started out again and in time for the opening had two signs ready, better than those before.

Credit is also due the Del Mar crew for their help in putting up the booth and help in manning it during the fair.

Not only did the booth serve as a medium of display to the public, the variety of work being done by the Division, but a quantity of fire prevention material was distributed along with that on display in the booth. It is felt that this booth is just a beginning to more successful displays in future years.

John Hastings,
Assistant Ranger

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Recent weeks have seen the stepping up of law enforcement activity in San Bernardino County. With the aid of Norman Harris, Investigator for District VI, and Harvey French, Investigator for the National Board of Fire Underwriters, three cases have been successfully carried through. The cases in the west portion of the County dealt with smoking bees and not having proper fireproofing in the apiary area; also, dumping hot ashes in wild lands and not using the public dump as provided and maintained by the County. The two fires resulting from the above acts burned approximately one hundred acres in Zone 3 protection area, and were prosecuted on San Bernardino County fire prevention Ord. 533.

In the East-end District, under Assistant Ranger "Art" Balsom, a fire burning nearly four hundred acres and seriously threatening major watershed areas was the result of a bad muffler on a truck hauling grain out of the field. In addition to the grain, brush land, and structural damage which occurred, a State forestry fire truck was completely destroyed by fire, with fortunately only a minor injury to the crew.

As a result of the publicity in County papers covering the foregoing, it is reported that inquiries in regard to prevention regulations and burning permits have been on the increase through State forestry stations, also fire districts and municipal departments.

A noticeable reduction in fire occurrence is seen in the Morongo-Valley Twenty-nine Palms area due to vigilant efforts of the patrolmen operating through the area, making inspections and general public relations prevention contacts.

A new fire control station in San Bernardino County is located on the desert side at Phelan to the northwest of San Bernardino, giving improved coverage to that area. At present, it is activated with a Dodge Power Wagon unit and a two-man crew. It is understood their routine will be prevention patrol during the forenoon with station duty the balance of the day. As in other localities, much prevention work can be carried on with particular emphasis regarding roadside camper fires.

Unit #245, a new county forestry firetruck was recently placed in service at our San Antonio Heights Fire Control Station in the west-end Assistant Ranger District. This was formerly a military refueling unit and is on an all-wheel drive International truck. The converting and build-up work was done in the Division of Forestry shops at San Bernardino under the supervision of Division mechanic, Larry Shay.

The unit in service mounts a 400 gallon tank with 800 feet of hose in the bed, divided between 2½ in. size and 1½ in. size; also has a 100 foot one inch line. Its pumping equipment consists of a 500 GPM auxiliary driver pump, using an 80 G.P.M. Viking for priming and protection of personnel and equipment should mechanical trouble develop in the main pump. The new pumper's auxiliary equipment consists mainly of shovels, cutting tools, extension ladder, pike pole, a pair of portable flood and spot lights, assorted adapters, etc. As in other units, it is equipped with two-way radio communications. All in all, we are mighty proud of the "big feller" out West.

MORE FROM DISTRICT IV

In studying the "props" in Life's colored photo (page 49 of the February 2 issue) depicting Nevada City's rural life, some discussion has arisen to the identity

of the photogenic State Forest Officer shown therein. Could you identify the young man for the girls in the District IV office?

J. D. Rafferty
Fire Prevention Officer

NOTE: Your editor can be of no help. Has any one further inquiries.

FORESTRY AT HOME AND ABROAD

WOOD PRODUCTS INC. FURNISH COLORFUL AND USEFUL ITEMS FOR OUR EVERYDAY LIFE

Colorful and useful products are finding their way into our everyday life - all made from sawdust.

Toppings for tables, bars, counters, wall panels, drainboards, tile are a few of the items being produced today.

Of course, it takes phenolic resins, plastics, melamine treated cloth or paper and heat and pressure - but the main ingredient is pressed sawdust.

All of this is produced by Wood Products, Inc., of Sacramento, California, located in the box factory of the Setzer Forest Products, Inc., and has been developed from research and experimentation of the Hughes Research and Engineering Company.

Dryers, mixers, a laminating press and a complete assembly plant, in operation for over ~~two~~ years, does the work.

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FLORIDA USES PELLET SEEDS

Searching for an easier way to plant slash pine trees, the Florida Forest Service has begun a series of experiments with "pelletized" seeds that resemble candy coated pills.

This process, if successful, could replace present forest planting methods, said R. U. Titus, Florida Management Chief.

The pellets are the size of an English pea and are coated with a black, chemical mixture.

Considerable work has been done along this line by the Crown Zellerbach Corp., in the Northwest.

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REHABILITATION OF TILLAMOOK BURN STARTED BY OREGON FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

First steps have been taken to reforest the 300,000 acre Tillamook burn by the Oregon State Forestry department.

To determine best methods and techniques in rehabilitating the fire-razed land, the department has felled 2,000 snags in a mile-long corridor and have planted 85,675 Douglas fir and noble fir seedlings under varying conditions. An additional

71,825 seedlings have been planted in blocks outside the corridor to test survival on some particularly adverse sites.

The general plan for the reforestation job is to fell snags and clear fire corridors so as to divide the burn into a series of islands before planting. Then if a fire occurs there will be a good chance of holding it to one of the islands. This precaution is justified by the 1939 fire which wiped out six years of reforestation work when fire swept over the area for the second time.

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NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS PLAN FOR COORDINATION OF FOREST FIRE PROTECTION CONTROL

The following report was presented and approved by the New England Governors' Conference.

1. Forest fire control activities in all New England states should be the responsibility of and under the complete jurisdiction of the respective state forest agencies. Laws in each state should be enacted promptly to accomplish that end.

Comment: Each state is urged to review present laws with the idea of giving each state forest agency full authority in coordinating all fire suppression activities for all fires.

As a result of the disastrous forest fires of last fall, the New England governors requested the New England Council's Conference of Forestry Officials to prepare definite recommendations on forest fire prevention, control and suppression.

2. Each state should establish immediately for action during forest fire emergencies a central agency to coordinate the procurement and movement of men, supplies and equipment to affected areas.

3. A similar central agency should be established for New England.

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MASONITE CORP. LAYING PLANS FOR NEW PLANT AT UKIAH

While many problems involved in the utilization of redwood are being worked out, much preliminary work is being undertaken by the Masonite Corp. at Ukiah, Calif., where the company's first western manufacturing division will be located.

E. T. F. Wohlenberg, manager of the Ukiah operations, said the plant will consume about 45 million feet of logs a year.

The company has 57,000 acres of forest land, 50,000 acres of which carry timber of varying ages and classes. Operating on a sound forestry basis, some of the raw material will be in the form of thinnings; some will be developed by a break-down mill operating in the larger timber.

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